

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF

A B E R D A R E

**ANNUAL**

**REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR

**1958**

BY

**J. LI. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)**



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## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

DATE OF MEETING :—Third Tuesday in each month at 7 p.m.

**CHAIRMAN :-**

Councillor J. M. POWELL.

## MEMBERS :

Councillor Clifford Edwards	Councillor Mrs. L. G. Lynch
W. S. Jones	R. W. Ashman
Sidney S. Reed	Mrs. M. Morris
J. E. W. Williams	Mrs. S. Morgan
Thomas Jones	I. W. Evans
Trevor Williams	

Ex-Officio Members—Councillor G. R. Pritchard, B.E.M.

Councillor P. Egan, J.P.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1958**

Medical Officer of Health	....	....	J. Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond).
Senior Public Health Inspector	....		Daniel Richards, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspectors	....	....	Trevor Walters, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. John F. Jones, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. Evan P. Evans, M.R.S.H..
Pupil Public Health Inspectors	....		Bernard C. Taylor Mansel Hughes

**Clerical Staff:-**

Chief Clerk	....	....	....	David R. Williams, A.I. Hsg., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Second Clerk	....	....	....	Emrys S. Evans.
Clerk	....	....	....	William J. Bureau.
Shorthand Typist	....	....	....	Mrs. Stella H. Lloyd

Public Health Department,

Rock Grounds,

Aberdare.

Tel. No. Aberdare 441.

1st October, 1959.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ABERDARE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district, and of the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1958. This report has been prepared on the lines laid down in Circular 22/58 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

I would like to express to the Council my appreciation of the interest shown by the Members in matters affecting Public Health. I wish, also, to express my sincere thanks for the help I have received from Mr. D. G. James, the Clerk of the Council, and the Council's Chief Officers, the Senior Public Health Inspector—Mr. Daniel Richards, the Public Health Inspectors, to Mr. D. R. Williams, Chief Clerk and the Clerical Staff for their loyal support and assistance to me during the year under review.

Yours sincerely,

J. LI. WILLIAMS,

*Medical Officer of Health*

M.O.H. Private Address Tel. No. Aberdare 680.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District (in acres) ....	15,183
Census Population (1951) ....	40,932
Registrar's estimated population ....	39,860
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1958) ....	12,622
Rateable Value (New Valuation List at 1st April, 1958) ....	£250,619
Sum represented by a Penny rate ....	£920

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births ....	564
Live birth rate per 1,000 population ....	14.15
Stillbirths ....	17
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths ....	29.26
Total live and stillbirths ....	581
Infant Deaths ....	16
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births —total....	28.3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births —legitimate	25.54
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births —illegitimate ....	125.
Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	23.05
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ....	2.83
Maternal deaths (including abortion) ....	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births ....	Nil

## DEATHS.

Deaths that actually occurred in the district ....	463
Local residents who died outside the area....	128
	<hr/>
Residents of other districts who died in the Aberdare Area ....	591
	21
	<hr/>
Corrected number of deaths	570

Five hundred and seventy deaths occurred among local residents giving a death-rate of 14.3 per 1,000.

Death rate for 1957 ....	14.92
Death rate for England and Wales for 1958 per 1,000 (crude)	11.7
For Glamorgan (Administrative County) ....	13.66
For Urban Districts ....	13.79
For Rural Districts ....	13.18



# INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO MORTALITY, 1958.

Source	Infant Mortality		Neo Natal Mortality.	
	Deaths under one Year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Deaths under four weeks	Rate per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales ....	—	22.50	—	—
Glamorgan County ....	353	28.83	251	20.50
Urban Districts ....	265	29.97	189	21.38
Rural Districts ....	88	25.87	62	18.22
ABERDARE ....	16	28.3	13	23.05
Some larger Glamorgan Districts :				
Barry ....	21	28.19	13	17.45
Bridgend ....	6	23.26	5	19.38
Caerphilly ....	16	22.82	11	15.69
Maesteg ....	12	31.09	7	18.13
Mountain Ash ....	24	47.52	16	31.68
Neath Borough....	17	34.62	12	24.44
Neath Rural ....	14	22.19	8	12.68
Pontypridd ....	14	24.18	12	20.73
Port Talbot ....	38	37.92	27	26.95
Rhondda Borough ....	48	30.36	30	18.98

## STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still-births registered was 17, of which 11 were males and 6 females. The still birthrate per 1,000 registered live and stillbirths being 29.26 .

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality—Deaths under One Year. Rates per 1,000 Births, since 1898.

Year	England and Wales.	Aberdare.	Year.	England and Wales.	Aberdare
1898	160	227	1933	64	78
1899	163	241	1934	59	79
1900	154	164	1935	57	67
1901	151	234	1936	59	68
1902	133	169	1937	58	73
1903	132	174	1938	53	51
1904	145	239	1939	50	50
1905	128	199	1940	55	80
1906	132	209	1941	59	61
1907	118	134	1942	49	66
1908	120	212	1943	49	44
1909	109	127	1944	46	36
1910	105	151	1945	46	46
1911	130	187	1946	43	46
1912	95	114	1947	41	62
1913	108	172	1948	34	41
1914	105	99	1949	32	51
1915	110	140	1950 I.M.	29.8	33.85
1916	91	102	1950 N.N.M	—	20.07
1917	96	91	1951 I.M.	29.6	54.28
1918	97	123	N.N.M.	18.8	17.83
1919	89	89	1952 I.M.	27.6	36.78
1920	80	98	N.N.M.	18.9	22.77
1921	83	104	1953 I.M.	26.8	30.80
1922	77	110	N.N.M.	17.7	25.36
1923	69	77	1954 I.M.	25.5	26.79
1924	75	84	N.N.M.	17.7	21.43
1925	75	95	1955 I.M.	24.9	32.67
1926	70	88	N.N.M.	17.3	25.41
1927	69	71	1956 I.M.	23.8	28.42
1928	65	91	N.N.M	—	23.09
1929	74	98	1957 I.M.	23.0	37.64
1930	60	68	N.N.M	16.5	29.46
1931	66	86	1958 I.M.	22.50	28.3
1932	65	57	N.N.M	—	23.05

(I.M.—Infant Mortality. No. of deaths under 1 year).

(N.N.M.—Neo Natal Mortality. No. of deaths under 4 weeks.)

The following table gives the number of stillbirths per 1,000 live and stillbirths for the last ten years.

1949	18.0	1954	36.1
1950	40.14	1955	38.3
1951	16.46	1956	44.9
1952	24.5	1957	27.07
1953	33.44	1958	29.26

TABLE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1958.

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CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 day		1-7 days		1-2 wks.		2-3 wks.		3-4 wks.	Over 4 weeks & under 3 mths.		3-6 mths.		6-9 mths.		9-12 mths.		Totals	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Prematurity	...	— 1	...	— 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Asphyxia	...	— 1	...	1	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	—	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	3	—
Meninges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	...	1	—
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Exophalos	...	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
TOTALS.	...	— 2	...	7	3	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	1	—	...	...	...	11	5

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male	Female	Total
All causes	343	248	591
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	8	—	8
Other Forms	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	—	2
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	13	8	21
lung-bronchus	7	2	9
breast	—	6	6
Uterus	—	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	20	21	41
Leukaemia-aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	50	55	105
Coronary disease—angina	53	14	67
Hypertension with heart disease	10	8	18
Other heart disease	62	62	124
Other circulatory diseases	5	7	12
Influenza	4	2	6
Pneumonia	8	3	11
Bronchitis	33	11	44
Other diseases of respiratory system	18	2	20
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	25	48
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	7	8	15
Suicide	3	—	3
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in the area during the past five years :-

	1958			1957			1956			1955			1954		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Stomach	13	8	21	8	5	13	10	9	19	10	7	17	14	10	24
Lung bronchus	7	2	9	9	1	10	5	1	6	10	3	13	11	—	11
Breast	—	6	6	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	7	7	—	2	2
Uterus	—	5	5	—	5	5	—	3	3	—	4	4	—	4	4
Other	20	18	38	22	13	35	20	15	35	18	20	38	20	22	42
Totals	40	39	79	39	28	67	35	32	67	38	41	79	45	38	83

#### LIVE BIRTHS.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	....	....	296	252	548
Illegitimate	....	....	11	5	16
			307	257	564
Birth rate per 1,000 home population being	....	....	....	....	14.57
1957 birth rate per 1,000 home population was	....	....	....	....	15.7
The birth rate for England and Wales being (crude)	....	....	....	....	16.4
The birth rate for Glamorgan (Administrative County)	....	....	....	....	16.32
The birth rate for Urban Districts being	....	....	....	....	16.18
The birth rate for Rural Districts being	....	....	....	....	16.73

#### ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The number of illegitimate births registered was 16 of which 11 were boys and 5 girls and two deaths occurred amongst these children.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year the following notifications were received :-

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Scarlet Fever ....	7	8	15
Measles ....	36	42	78
Pneumonia ....	6	15	21
Dysentery (Sonne) ....	9	9	18
Meningococcal Infection ....	2	1	3
Food Poisoning ....	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	—	8	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ....	1	1	2

The following table shows the incidence of notifications of confirmed infectious diseases during the past seven years :-

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Diphtheria ....	—	—	—	1	2	4	4
Scarlet Fever ....	15	5	47	26	16	1	81
Whooping Cough ....	—	41	13	9	2	44	88
Measles ....	78	352	39	500	9	340	230
Paratyphoid ....	2	—	—	1	1	—	11
Dysentery (Sonne) ....	18	16	133	2	3	8	1
Food Poisoning ....	1	9	5	12	11	3	2
Meningococcal Infection	3	2	2	3	5	3	5
Erysipelas ....	—	2	3	4	2	3	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	8	11	14	5	15	7	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia....	21	32	15	29	26	43	41
Poliomyelitis-Paralytic ....	—	—	1	3	—	1	7
Encephalitis Lethargica .... (!Infective)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

ANNUAL REPORT OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATION  
(CORRECTED).

Total Outbreaks	....	....	....	....	....	....	NIL
-----------------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

Total Number of known cases	....	....	....	....	....	NIL
-----------------------------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

## DISEASE.

No. of  
Cases

Diphtheria (Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	1
Meningococcal infection (Confirmed and Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	5
Poliomyelitis (Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	3
Mumps	....	....	....	....	....	1
Enteritis	....	....	....	....	....	27
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	1
Dysentery	....	....	....	....	....	2
Food Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	3
Paratyphoid (unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	1
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....	1
Pneumonia....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Glandular Fever	....	....	....	....	....	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	....	....	2
Chickenpox	....	....	....	....	....	2
						51
Number of patients admitted during the year	....	....	....	....	....	51
Aggregate number of days spent by patients in hospital	....	....	....	....	....	661
Average number of days per patient	....	....	....	....	....	12.9

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (Section 167. Sub. Sec. 4).

Authority is given to Local Authorities under the above Section of the Public Health Act, 1936, to replace bedding soiled and suspected of containing infection after infectious disease.

No such replacement was made in my district during 1958.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under this section, which empowers the Council to apply for an Order for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified in 1958 was :-

Tuberculosis-Pulmonary ....	28
Meningitis ....	—
Other forms ....	4

Total notified during the year ....	32
Cases of tuberculosis admitted to Sanatoria in 1958 ....	61
Cases of tuberculosis discharged from Sanatoria in 1958 ....	55

The following table gives the age and sex distribution of persons notified as suffering from tuberculosis and of those who have died from the disease :-

## NEW CASES NOTIFIED.

## DEATHS.

Age Periods	Respir- atory		Menin- gitis		Other Forms.		Respir- atory		Menin- gitis		Other Forms	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 5 ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 ....	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 ....	2	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 44 ....	—	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 64 ....	7	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
65 & over ....	5	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ....	15	13	—	—	3	1	7	2	—	—	—	—

The following tables show the incidence of tuberculosis in the district for the past 20 years.

## CASES NOTIFIED.

## DEATHS NOTIFIED.

Year.	Respiratory.		Other Forms	Respiratory.		Other Forms
1939	50		12	31		4
1940	68		15	30		4
1941	73		15	30		4
1942	60		17	20		6
1943	79		22	26		4
1944	85		14	30		5
1945	63		14	17		1
1946	64		13	24		2
1947	62		8	23		4
1948	57		9	17		1
1949	50		12	24		4
1950	51		12	22		2
1951	51		17	27		5
1952	44		2	11		1
1953	104		8	13		1
1954	74		10	9		5
1955	49		12	8		1
1956	25		5	6		1
1957	31		4	3		—
1958	28		4	9		—



## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Urban District Council is derived from seven sources. In six of these the water is treated, i.e. filtered and chlorinated, but is chlorinated only in the remaining source. In general the raw water from all sources is of an upland surface type and soft in character.

RESERVOIR.	CAPACITY IN GALLONS.	AREA SUPPLIED.
NANTHIR      ....      .... (Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed)      ....	40,000,000	Llwydcoed, Ysguborwen, Graig Place, Abernant, Maesyffynon, Godreaman (West of Jubilee Road), Forge View area, North View Terrace, Cwmbach (part).
NANTMOEL      ....      .... (Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed).	67,000,000	Hoovers, Cables, Trecy- non, Trefelin to Park Schools, Robertstown, part of Aberaman to Abercwmboi.
BWLLFA (Graig Storage Ponds) (Situated in the Bwllfa, Cwmdare Village)	7,000,000	Foundrytown, Davies- town, Town Centre, Maesydre, Gadlys (to Park Grove), Plasdraw area, Sunnybank Street.
NANTAMANFACH.      .... (Situated in the hollow of the Hafod Wen mountain, Cwmaman)	100,000	} Part of Aberaman, part of Godreaman, Incline Row, Woodland Terrace to Glynhafod Street.
PWLLFA      ....      .... (Situated at Ffyrnant in the hollow of the Ffaldau and Coedcae Mountains, Cwmaman).	300,000	
TAF FECHAN WATER BOARD.		
Upper Neuadd      ....      ....	340,000,000	} Croesbychan, Hirwaun, Penywaun, Hirwaun Rd, Cwmdare. Trecynon (Cemetery Lodge to Park Lane), Llewellyn Street.
Lower Neuadd      ....      ....	74,000,000	
Taf Fechan      ....      ....	3,400,000,000	
BLAENNANTYGROES TANK (Chlorinated only).	4,000	Blaennantygroes Road, Daniel Street, Waterloo Street, Pleasant Grove, Pond Place, Phillip Row, Morgan Row.

Bacteriological and chemical analysis were made fortnightly on all sources of water supply.

A table showing the results of bacteriological and chemical tests on the filtered supplies is given below :—

Source of Supply.	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS.				RESULT OF CHEMICAL TESTS.			
	No. of samples.	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	% Satis- factory.	No. of samples.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory	% Satis- factory.
NANTHIR RESERVOIR.								
Raw ...	29	—	—	—	29	—	—	—
Filtered ...	29	26	3	89.6	29	26	3	89.6
C.W.S. Creamery ...	6	6	—	100.	6	6	—	100.
NANTMOEL RESERVOIR.								
Raw ...	24	—	—	—	24	—	—	—
Filtered ...	24	23	1	95.8	24	22	2	91.6
GRAIG STORAGE PONDS								
Raw ...	24	—	—	—	24	—	—	—
Filtered ...	24	23	1	95.8	24	23	1	95.8
PWLLFA RESERVOIR.								
Raw ...	24	—	—	—	24	—	—	—
Filtered ...	24	15	9	62.5	24	22	2	91.6
NEUADD RESERVOIR.								
Filtered ...	145	135	10	93.1	145	131	14	90.3
NANTAMANFACH RESERVOIR.								
Raw ...	22	—	—	—	22	—	—	—
Filtered ...	22	18	4	81.8	22	21	1	95.4
BLAENNANTYGROES TANK.								
Other Samples	25	13	12	52.0	25	23	2	92.0
Un-Filtered ...	19	7	12	36.84	19	8	11	42.10

# SWIMMING BATHS AND PADDLING POOL.

17

There are three swimming baths and one paddling pool situated in the district administered by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department of the Council, viz.—

Swimming Bath and paddling pool at Aberdare Public Park.

Swimming Bath at Rock Grounds, Aberdare, and

Swimming Bath at Michael's Field, Recreation Ground, Aberaman.

Samples are taken by the Public Health Inspectors from the baths when in use, and are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination.

## RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS.

## RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS.

Source.	No. of samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	% Satisfactory.	No. of samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	% Satisfactory.
ROCK BATHS								
Shallow End	15	13	2	86.6	15	8	7	53.3
Deep End	15	9	6	60.0	15	5	10	33.3
PARK BATHS.								
Shallow End	15	15	—	100.0	15	9	6	60.0
Deep End	15	14	1	93.3	15	10	5	66.6
PARK PADDLING POOL								
	16	3	13	18.7	16	8	8	50.0
ABERAMAN BATHS.								
Shallow End	7	7	—	100.0	7	—	7	—
Deep End	7	6	1	85.7	7	—	7	—

## River Pollution.

During 1958, the National Coal Board scheme for neutralising the effluent from the flue-dust settling ponds at their Middle Duffryn Power Station was completed. Observations made up to the end of the year shewed that this work had undoubtedly been successful in its primary object of reducing the acidity of the final effluent from the settling ponds into the River Cynon. In consequence of this, following the earlier works carried out by the Board at the Phurnacite Plant, the river can now sustain fish life throughout its course within the District, which is a greater achievement than might at first sight appear when it is recalled that :

- (i) the condition of the river was formerly far different ;
- (ii) it flows through a heavily industrialised area ; and
- (iii) this end has been achieved by the Council independently of the formal enforcement procedure of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, which, indeed, they to some extent anticipated.

Observation was, at the same time, maintained to establish the extent to which, if at all, the secondary object of the new works, namely that of increasing the precipitation of the dust trapped, and so improving the appearance, as well as the content, of the final discharge into the river, had been achieved. Here, all that could safely be said at the year-end was that there were some grounds for hoping that this might prove the case.

In this respect, however, as will be pointed out later in relation to atmospheric pollution, the ultimate degree of success achieved will depend to a large extent upon unremitting care in the operation of the equipment provided.

## Atmospheric Pollution.

Although this involves a certain amount of duplication, it has been thought desirable to sub-divide the report made upon this important topic under four heads :

- (i) Industrial installations, other than the Phurnacite Plant ;
- (ii) The Phurnacite Plant, Abercwmboi, which tradition as well as the scope of its individual problem, requires to be treated separately :
- (iii) the Clean Air Act, 1956, with particular reference to the "domestic front" ; and
- (iv) comparative statistical information.

A common feature of all four topics is the continuing interest taken in the matter by the general public as well as the Council themselves. Indeed, if the latter were at any future time to require any spur to continued endeavour in this field, they have themselves, by their promotion of public interest in the subject in past years, clearly forged the instrument which would provide it. It was in furtherance of this policy of keeping the public informed upon this subject, that, in June, 1958, a comprehensive review of the position to that date was widely published by the Council throughout the area,

*Industrial Installations.***Middle Duffryn Power Station** (*National Coal Board*).

Following the great success (referred to in the 1957 Report), of the electrostatic precipitator installed at the coal drier here, further consideration was given, during 1958, to the problems associated with the flue dust from the Power Station which is not effectively trapped by the mist spray which has been in operation there for a number of years, and which is not, as a result, carried in aqueous suspension into the settling ponds referred to in the report upon River Pollution above. This "escape" by way of the tall Power Station stacks is obviously fairly heavy, albeit at a fair height. Technically, this problem would seem capable of fairly easy solution, for example, by the provision of electrostatic precipitators and/or the use of higher grade fuel at the Station. From a practical standpoint, however, the problem is more difficult in that the Power Station has obviously a life which, relatively speaking, is short, and the inevitable result of extreme pressure for a solution on either of the alternative lines suggested above, would seem to be the premature closure of the installation which would, in turn, create problems of another character. At meetings with senior Area Officers of the Board during 1958, it was, therefore, agreed, in this particular respect, that they would, in addition to operating the existing trapping equipment to the maximum efficiency of its admittedly limited capacity, endeavour to establish, by the insertion of measuring equipment in the stacks, just how much pollution arose from this source.

**Aberaman Colliery** (*National Coal Board*).

At this Colliery, the course to which the Board were virtually committed at the beginning of 1958 was, if the plant installed there was to continue to operate as previously, the installation of electrostatic precipitators. In fact, cause for complaint was on this score ended by the action of the Board in carrying out, as part of certain major reorganisation activities, electrification work which enabled the two pulverised fuel boilers at the Colliery, which had been the direct cause of the atmospheric pollution difficulties associated for a number of years with this installation, to be taken out of commission, save for emergency purposes. It should not, however, be thought that the Council's endeavours, over a number of years, in connection with this "nuisance" were in vain, since the pollution difficulties created by the former arrangements at the Colliery, to which their attention had so often been drawn, clearly weighed with the Board's officers in deciding upon the alternative arrangements. Furthermore, the observations made, and negotiations conducted, over the years, had also demonstrated the necessary limits of mechanical cyclones in dealing with discharges of this character encountered in this area, and undoubtedly speeded the resort made elsewhere in the locality to electrostatic precipitators, which have proved so much more satisfactory in practice.

**Aberaman Pipeworks** (**Powell Duffryn Co. Ltd.**)

Following the resolution of the difficulties for so long connected with the Aberaman Colliery, the attention of the Officers of the Council's Health Department was then turned to the Colliery's near neighbour, the Aberaman Pipeworks, at which building and industrial glazed ware is produced. This Plant would appear to be responsible for intermittent pollution of the



atmosphere with smoke and dust, and, after discussions with the District Alkali Inspector, some thought was given to the course which might be urged upon the owners of it. The measures which would have been necessary to achieve really satisfactory results were so far reaching, having regard to the age and condition of the Plant, which has been in existence for 125 years and provides regular employment for 67 men and 9 women, that in the year under review, action was limited to encouraging the special training of the stokers responsible for firing the kiln, each of whom was provided with a printed list of instructions, and acquainted with the relevant provisions of the Clean Air Act ; to observation of experiments in the uses of coke as an alternative fuel, which were, however, unsuccessful ; and generally, to continued observation of the works by the District Alkali Inspector as well as the Council's Officers.

### **Phurnacite Plant, Abercwmboi** (*National Coal Board*).

The note intended to be struck in the Reports made in the past two years upon this Plant was one of sober optimism. If anything that was then said, created the impression that, in 1958, the year in which the last of the programme of works initiated by the Divisional Chairman of the Board in the series of meetings which had been held in previous years, we should see a final solution to this matter, then this earliest opportunity of disposing of any such impression must be taken. Indeed, it must be admitted, at once, that the complaints which the general public continue to voice regarding the conditions created by this Plant, have a good deal of substance.

Cold comfort as it is to these complainants, the Council have continued to maintain that the only way of considering this problem, which is fair and reasonable to those who have been striving for several years to solve pollution problems of this Plant, is against the background of former conditions thereat.

Briefly, the Plant had formerly released a continuous discharge of coal dust throughout the twenty-four hours of each day ; emitted an equally continuous discharge of concentrated ammoniacal liquor in to the River Cynon ; and also produced intermittent discharges of clouds of evil smelling yellow fumes from the mouths of the retorts below the roof of the structure, whenever the latter were themselves discharged.

In contrast to this situation, the position by December, 1958, was that on the relatively rare occasions when any dust from the coal driers did escape to the atmosphere, this was for very short periods only ; no ammonia liquor was discharged into the river ; and discharges of white steam had taken the place of the yellow fume discharges.

These improvements were due, in the first place, to the high degree of efficiency of the electrostatic precipitators which had been installed earlier, on the Council's urgent representations, in both the old and new sections of the Plant ; to the completion, more recently, of an ammonia concentration plant in which the ammoniacal liquor, previously discharged into the river, was (and is) purified, concentrated and sold, the residue thereof being discharged into settling ponds on an adjacent tip ; and to the completion by mid 1958 of the work of installing at the mouths of the retorts at the Plant, of the fume washing equipment described in earlier Reports.

In this last connection it was, at the time of completing the installation work, thought that the washing process carried out would, apart from its undoubted consequence of improving working conditions, merely have the effect (of greater psychological than practical consequence), of removing the colour, but not the smell, from the fumes discharged, but further investigation by the Alkali Inspector, at the actual points of discharge, shewed that in fact the smell was removed.

This discovery, in turn, had the effect of redirecting attention towards the ammoniacal liquor - residue settling ponds mentioned earlier, and there was, at the end of the year, a hardening opinion that much of the unpleasant smell attaching to the Plant, and for which the fumes had hitherto been considered to be responsible, really resulted primarily from the discharges of hot raw ammoniacal liquor (as distinct from the usual residue effluent), discharged into the settling ponds at times when the output of such liquor from the plant exceeded the capacity provided in the Concentration Plant; and further consideration was being given to the problem in the light of the view so formed, along the lines, possibly, of the provision of a biological treatment plant near the settling ponds.

Concurrently, action was taken to keep before the Board, undertakings given by them to consider possible measures to deal with those intermittent discharges of dust and fumes from the mouths of the retorts when being charged, which were then being dealt with, only inadequately, by the operation of an exhaustor ; and also the problem of dust of relatively larger particulate size having a comparatively local fall out, entrained with the steam liberated on the discharge of the hot phurnacite from the retorts into cold water, which had however, at last been contained in a closed circuit. It was thought to be a further token of the interest taken in the matter by the Divisional Chairman of the Board, that he undertook that the investigation into these continuing problems would extend to consideration of work which it had been established that the Steel Company of Wales were carrying out at Margam upon a problem which had certain points of comparison.

The courses described in the last two paragraphs represented the only identifiable items of work or research which were still being pursued at the end of the year. In addition, however, the Divisional Chairman was urged by the Council, in the course of a meeting with representatives of the Council during the year, to endeavour to sustain in the employees of the Board concerned with the Plant at all levels, that zeal for the anti-atmospheric pollution campaign which would ensure that the preventative equipment provided by the Board, at such a considerable expense, was operated to the maximum advantage ; and this he gladly undertook to do.

#### *Clean Air Act, 1956.*

On 1st June, 1958, the last sections of the Clean Air Act, 1956, came into force, and elsewhere, considerable publicity was given to provisions and the possibilities which they created. If this occasion appeared to have passed largely unnoticed at Aberdare, it was not because the scope and potential effect of the Act were in any way underestimated, but rather because, it can be modestly claimed, the Council had for several years, stimulated and enjoyed a degree of interest and co-operation from the National Coal Board which could not have been exceeded even had the Council been throughout, reinforced by those statutory enforcement provisions which had become, by the passing of the 1956 Act, part of the general law of the country.

Even the difference in the status of the Council with regard to the atmospheric pollution "nuisances" created by the major plants referred to above, which resulted from the direct responsibility in relation to "scheduled premises" given by the Act to the Alkali Inspectorate, was, at Aberdare, more apparent than real. This was because, in the preceding years, a close understanding and mutual confidence had been created between officers of the Council and the Inspectorate, and it was in this same spirit that both sets of officers continued their activities after the "appointed day" for this Act.

Whilst, however, it was thus appreciated that, locally, the coming of the 1956 Act would produce no startling changes in the field of industrial pollution it was equally realised that, in the aggregate, the pollution caused by domestic fires could present as great, if not a greater problem. Careful consideration was accordingly given to the effect of the Act in this field, and, at first sight, the provisions relating to smoke control areas seemed attractive

There were, however, considerations, the chief of which, again at first sight appeared to be that of Miners' concessionary "house" coal, which dictated a cautious approach. But since this particular problem was known to be receiving attention at national level, an assessment of the possible benefits of action in this respect was still made.

So far as domestic fires were concerned, the obvious results of establishing smoke control areas would be that householders would then be compelled, under penalty, to burn only "smokeless" fuels. One such authorised fuel is, under the appropriate Ministerial Order, "low volatile steam coals." Just how low the volatility of such coals must be to satisfy the requirements is no where authoritatively defined in the Act or Order. But if the National Coal Board classification, founded upon that formulated by the Coal Survey Organisation of the Fuel Research Association, and which is understood to be widely used in British industry, is followed, then "low volatile steam coals" would be those having a volatile content of between 9.1 and 19.5%, and support for this view of the matter can be obtained from references, (albeit without formal reflection in the Act), in the "Beaver Report," the association of which with the 1956 Act is so well known as to require no comment.

Enquiries of local coal retailers and the National Coal Board subsequently established that coal sold for domestic consumption in the District, and supplied to miners as "house" coal, was all of a volatility of less than 19%. The view accordingly formed by the Council's Officers was that the result of this situation, coupled with the fact that the Council had, in mid 1957, made a byelaw requiring new buildings, etc. to be provided with appliances for cooking and heating, capable of burning gas, electricity, coke or anthracite or of other approved design, and the relatively satisfactory report as to the incidence of fogs in the area, received from the Meteorological Station at St. Athans, meant that there was little or nothing to be gained, on this score, by starting action to create smoke control areas under the abovementioned provisions. Formal consideration of this matter by the Council was, however, held over until 1959.



### *Comparative Statistics.*

Tables shewing the results of the samples analysed from the various atmospheric pollution measuring stations established in Aberdare and Mountain Ash are included in this Report. On this occasion, however, for comparative purposes, corresponding figures for the years 1956 and 1957 are also included. These results continue to be submitted, month by month, to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the National Coal Board, as well as to the two Councils immediately concerned. On the first occasion that these tables were included in an Annual Report, (for 1956), it was said that four or five years would have to elapse before any real conclusions could start to be drawn. It is with a good deal of reserve, therefore, that the following comments are made ; and since they are being made, there is even greater need than usual to reiterate the warning given in earlier Reports, that caution should be exercised in interpreting the results reported.

So far, it will be observed that the lowest readings appear to occur consistently in nearly all stations, in the month of April. Thereafter they rise, possibly but not certainly as a result of seasonal climatic conditions reaching their maximum in January and February and falling again quite suddenly in March and April. Furthermore, it may well be no more than a coincidence that the most marked drop shewn in the tables, occurs at the Aman School and Duffryn Row Stations, which adjoin two major installations where improvements mentioned earlier in this Report, namely, at the Aberaman Colliery stack and at the Middle Duffryn Coal Drier, respectively, have occurred. Perhaps the main thing that can be said to be being done by this work is the building up of a background of comparative information from which it will eventually be possible to draw certain clearer conclusions ; for whilst some of the stations are almost certainly directly affected by local sources of pollution of an industrial character, there are others which, by reason of their siting, should reflect the general pollution standards of the District.

To assist in this course, when it becomes possible, an approximate standard of what can be expected in relation to atmospheric pollution in the country, a clean town, or a black area of heavy density population and industry, has been obtained from the Council's Analyst and this is given below, although it is again emphasised that, at this stage, comparison of this standard with the figures so far obtained should be regarded as productive of interest only, and not of scientific conclusion :

#### Total Solids.

A. Clean	....	less than 12.5 tons per sq. mile.
B. Fairly clean	....	12.5 - 37.5 tons per sq. mile.
C. Dirty	....	37.5 - 62.5 tons per sq. mile.
D. Very dirty	....	More than 62.5 tons per sq. mile.

Clean rural atmosphere 0.25 m.g. of  $\text{S.O}_3$  per 100 sq. c.m. per day.  
 Heavily Polluted industrial 5.0. m.g. of  $\text{S.O}_3$  per 100 sq. c.m. per day,

# MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

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Below is a table of the results of analyses of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Aberdare and Mountain Ash areas. For comparative purposes, the results for 1956, 1957 and 1958 are shown below. The figures denote estimated total solids in tons per square mile.

COLLECTING POINT.		Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Aberdare & Distr. Co-op. (Central).		1956						13.69	13.39	13.93	18.89	18.23	18.29	29.39
		1957	26.75	20.77	27.11	7.75	12.49	10.30	16.62	14.33	14.33	19.20	17.72	33.79
		1958	18.23	34.47	19.23	11.78	17.62	12.75	13.29	12.71	14.84	12.94	15.07	25.00
Aman School, Godreaman	....	1956					13.76	20.64	29.23	19.30	64.25	35.00	47.87	50.87
		1957	37.32	61.01	44.03	8.09	17.96	16.98	21.21	33.35	20.47	20.60	16.38	39.17
Parry's Bakery, Abercwmboi	....	1958	27.72	37.18	14.46	9.80	22.58	8.99	10.97	11.11	12.55	10.23	11.51	20.21
		1956						38.93	24.43	23.79	20.85	31.76	27.55	29.33
		1957	32.27	25.84	22.88	29.40	22.07	20.31	22.94	18.92	17.50	25.96	23.93	51.68
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	....	1958	27.11	35.38	22.00	26.42	23.36	13.29	22.84	13.43	19.94	17.94	29.53	38.73
		1956						30.58	36.05	35.55	38.12	34.53	23.22	48.30
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash	....	1957	63.32	47.11	47.87	12.17	25.48	29.03	37.16	25.14	37.74	43.62	20.01	30.41
		1958	21.93	34.46	14.43	15.34	4.60	23.25	21.63	24.50	33.25	25.45	22.75	35.08
		1956						26.56	26.15	29.57	25.18	41.40	30.81	40.52
Trawscoed, Aberdare Rd., Mountain Ash		1957	34.06	38.46	28.69	8.92	27.98	19.43	26.90	31.97	23.88	34.94	27.33	39.92
		1958	38.15	38.56	19.43	17.67	22.31	22.98	23.28	18.28	27.36	29.77	23.02	40.01
		1956						29.40	27.45	31.78	23.69	47.72	34.63	39.16
Mountain Ash Grammar School	....	1957	26.54	40.37	31.17	10.71	34.57	30.23	43.39	43.72	32.11	40.94	32.62	48.35
		1958	38.42	48.29	21.91	27.45	27.81	29.00	32.53	28.59	29.43	34.96	34.93	47.85
Middle Duffryn Site	....	1956						25.73	51.41	39.66	22.99	41.06	28.82	33.90
		1957	25.67	36.61	24.86	12.05	23.83	21.24	25.51	38.35	33.28	34.09	31.18	45.49
		1958	42.15	37.42	18.32	20.30	21.48	24.97	25.31	25.14	41.58	30.76	25.70	47.75
		1957	267.30	140.40	137.66	62.55	86.21	65.94	105.40	90.42	116.07	228.23	75.26	145.58
		1958	127.88	164.33	46.11	72.28	145.85	101.88	95.48	112.26	115.00	119.60	50.88	93.53

MG. OF SO<sub>3</sub> DAY COLLECTED BY 100 SQ. CM. OF BATCH A. PbO<sub>2</sub> (LOUVERED COVER).

STATION.	Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
<b>ABERDARE.</b>														
Aberdare & Dist. Co-op. Society	1956						0.65	0.69	0.57	0.77	1.49	1.81	1.52	1.07
(Central Branch). ...	1957	1.93	1.46	1.21	1.89	0.90	0.66	0.56	0.60	0.70	1.30	1.94	2.49	1.30
Aman School, Godreman	1958	1.48	1.96	2.14	2.00	0.85	0.73	0.54	0.50	0.82	1.08	1.41	1.63	1.26
	1956						0.31	0.47	0.37	0.64	0.73	1.06	1.04	0.66
	1957	0.81	1.21	1.06	0.62	0.61	0.56	0.34	0.41	0.47	0.83	0.95	1.31	0.77
	1958	1.10	0.87	1.79	1.05	0.51	0.51	0.37	0.30	0.67	0.50	1.26	1.08	0.84
Parry's Bakery, Abercwmboi	1956						0.81	0.77	0.76	0.69	1.23	1.49	1.40	1.02
	1957	1.39	1.40	1.13	1.53	0.95	0.86	0.75	0.77	0.95	1.21	1.52	2.01	1.20
	1958	1.64	1.39	1.56	1.39	0.86	0.78	0.68	0.52	0.78	1.01	1.32	1.47	1.12
Rear Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	1956						0.53	0.49	0.48	0.53	0.59	0.76	1.06	0.63
	1957	1.29	1.10	1.02	0.57	0.56	0.50	0.42	0.42	0.59	0.80	0.78	1.13	0.76
	1958	1.01	0.97	0.92	0.86	0.95	0.51	0.41	0.41	0.64	0.59	0.70	0.87	0.74
<b>MOUNTAIN ASH.</b>														
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash	1956						1.20	1.04	1.09	1.16	2.01	2.51	2.30	1.61
	1957	2.16	2.42	2.03	1.67	1.30	0.76	1.01	1.08	1.34	1.88	2.39	2.75	1.73
	1958	2.69	2.32	2.62	2.38	1.13	1.19	0.90	0.81	0.88	1.81	2.48	2.87	1.84
Trawscoed, Aberdare Road	1956						0.62	0.58	0.44	0.61	0.81	1.13	1.13	0.76
	1957	0.96	1.12	0.89	0.66	0.65	0.42	0.51	0.50	0.67	0.86	1.02	1.31	0.80
	1958	1.22	1.06	1.35	0.88	0.47	0.61	0.57	0.33	0.62	0.51	1.08	1.33	0.84
Mountain Ash Grammar School	1956						0.72	0.66	0.63	0.59	1.01	1.26	1.40	0.89
	1957	1.04	1.38	1.06	0.58	0.65	0.53	0.79	0.94	1.04	1.01	0.94	1.63	0.97
	1958	1.81	1.47	1.31	1.28	1.31	0.68	0.43	0.49	0.56	0.74	1.07	1.44	1.05
Middle Duffryn, Mountain Ash	1956						0.99	0.86	0.88	0.70	1.14	1.10	1.38	1.01
	1957	2.16	1.30	1.36	0.76	0.94	0.71	1.21	1.19	1.38	1.40	0.87	1.52	1.23
	1958	1.48	1.86	1.20	1.38	0.58	0.98	0.89	0.74	1.18	1.04	0.77	1.10	1.10

## CINEMAS.

During the year the Health Committee approved certificates of fitness submitted by licensees with regard to First Aid, Fire Fighting, etc., and electrical installations. The Certificates showed a satisfactory position.

The greatest possible liaison exists between the Fire Prevention Officer of the Glamorgan Fire Service, and the Local Authority with regard to cinema supervision.

The Public Health Inspectors continued their routine inspections of all cinemas in the district and on the whole, the sanitary conveniences were kept in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

## LICENSED PREMISES—HYGIENE.

The Public Health Inspectors continued their routine inspections of all licensed premises in the district.

Similar to past reports, I have to state that the greatest liaison exists between the Licensing Justices, the Superintendent of Police and the Public Health Department, with regard to the hygiene and inspection of licensed premises in the district.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scavenging and road cleansing of the whole area is undertaken by the Council's own staff under the supervision of the Council's Engineer. Road gulleys are now emptied by a mechanical gully emptier and all refuse of the district is collected by mechanically propelled freighters.

The official tipping sites in the area during the year were situated at :—

Shop Houses, Llwydcoed.

Ynys Site, Aberdare.

Rear of Gasworks, Aberaman.

The public sanitary conveniences were maintained in a fairly good condition during the year, but wilful damage continued at several conveniences in the outlying districts.

The Public Health Inspectors continued to investigate complaints relating to the conveniences, to the indiscriminate tipping of refuse in back lanes and watercourses and to the creating of unofficial tips on waste ground.

## RODENT CONTROL.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year, work on the destruction of rats and mice was continued under N.S. 21 Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Division), and two operators were employed full time by the Council.

The operators also carried out two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the area during the year.

Particulars of other treatments carried out during the year will be found below :-

## Number of treatments—

Dwellinghouses	....	....	....	....	....	513
Local Authority premises	....	....	....	....	....	4
Business premises (the total cost of which is fully recoverable)	....	....	....	....	....	98
Places of Worship	....	....	....	....	....	3
					Total	618

## Particulars of treatment using Warfarin :-

RAT BAITS.		MICE BAITS.	
Total Bait Laid.	Total Bait Taken.	Bait Laid.	Bait Taken.
6,708 ozs.	3,180 ozs.	5,904 ozs.	3,514 ozs.

Particulars of treatments using other poison      NIL.

## SEWER TREATMENTS.

The two treatments of the sewers in the area carried out during 1958 consisted of baiting the manholes twice at weekly intervals using a bait made up as follows :—

85% Pinhead Oatmeal, 5% Mineral Oil, 5% Sugar, 5% Warfarin, 0.25% Para-nitro-phenol.

Some brief particulars of the treatments are given below :-

### FIRST TREATMENT.

Number of Manholes	Number Baited	Number of Complete and Good Takes	No. of Small Takes	No. of No Takes.	No. of Manholes not baited
790	554	70	30	454	236

### SECOND TREATMENT.

790	564	72	14	478	226
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### SLAUGHTERHOUSE

The slaughterhouse is under the management of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation Limited and serves the Aberdare and Mountain Ash Areas. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 24,486. All the carcasses were examined and the details of the inspections made are indicated below.

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ....	....	1,877	428	258	16,218	5,705
Number inspected ....	....	1,877	428	258	16,218	5,705

#### All diseases EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole carcasses condemned —		3	1	16	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was destroyed	257	163	—	470	230

Percentages of the numbers inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	13.7	38.1	—	2.9	4.02
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#### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Whole carcasses condemned	3	7	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was destroyed ....	52	27	1	—	133
Percentage of the numbers inspected affected with Tuber- culosis ....	2.2	6.3	—	—	2.3

#### CYSTICERCOSIS.

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	2	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—



## UN SOUND FOOD.

Food of the above description condemned as unfit for human consumption amounted to 11 tons, 13 cwts., 107lbs.

The amount condemned at the Slaughterhouse was 26,203 lbs., which consisted of :-

Beef	....	....	....	....	....	6,901 lbs.
Beef Offal...	....	....	....	....	....	8,045 lbs.
Veal	....	....	....	....	....	42 lbs.
Veal Offal...	....	....	....	....	....	8 lbs.
Mutton	....	....	....	....	....	563 lbs.
Mutton Offal	....	....	....	....	....	1,380 lbs.
Pork	....	....	....	....	....	1,792 lbs.
Pork Offal	....	....	....	....	....	640 lbs.

---

19,371 lbs.

Miscellaneous articles of food condemned in  
stores, shops, etc. .... 6,832 lbs.

---

26,203 lbs.

---

## CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned and diseased carcase meat and other inedible offals were disposed of to bona fide dealers in this kind of material where it is properly processed for various purposes. Other condemned foodstuff which could not be returned to suppliers or used for processing purposes was disposed of with proper care in the local authority's refuse tips. The tips are under regular inspection by the Public Health Inspectors.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. D. Evans Jones, Public Analyst, and to Dr. R. W. S. Harvey of the Public Health Laboratory for the advice and assistance I have had from them in connection with the wide variety of chemical and bacteriological analysis and investigations which they have carried out on behalf of the Local Authority.

Their readiness to help in a diversity of problems has been of very great assistance to me in carrying out my duties as Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

During the year, 93 specimens were sent by the Health Department and local General Practitioners. These included throat and nose swabs, faeces, etc.

## FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY.

The Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District, and during the year, the number of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, approximated to one sample per 138 members of the population.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The number of samples taken during the year for qualitative analysis was 287, comprising 69 milks and 218 other foods.

Of the 287 samples examined, 1 was found to be adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory, being 0.34 per cent of the whole.

The report on the unsatisfactory sample and the result of the action taken is indicated below :-

No. of Sample.	Commodity.	Formal or Informal	Nature of adulteration or irregularity	Action taken.
11a.	Bread.	Informal	Contained a portion of dead beetle.	Case heard at the Magistrates Court, Aberdare, on 23.4.58, the Defendant pleaded guilty and was given a conditional discharge on payment of costs.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of licenses issued to Sterilizing Plants	....	....	....	1
Number of licenses issued to Pasteurising Plants	....	....	....	1
Number of Dealers' Licenses authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	....	....	....	21
Number of Dealers' Licenses issued authorising the use of the Special Designation "Sterilized"	....	....	....	5

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of Dealers' Licenses issued authorizing the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	....	....	....	23
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## REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Forty-nine samples of pasteurised milk were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and all were found to be satisfactory.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dairies registered previously	....	....	....	....	12
Number of Dairies registered during 1958	....	....	....	....	—
					—
			Total	....	12
					—

## EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Three samples of milk were taken in the district for examination for tubercle bacilli, and the results showed that tubercle bacilli was absent.

## ICE CREAM.

All the shops and premises where ice cream is sold and prepared for sale were inspected by the Public Health Inspectors during the year. Vehicles used for the sale of ice cream were also inspected and kept under observation.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations prescribe the method by which ice cream is manufactured and the occupiers of all registered premises within the district are aware of the requirements of these regulations, and I am pleased to report that any suggestions made have readily been complied with.

During the year, it has been noticed that there appears to be a tendency towards the increased sale of pre-packed ice cream in the area.

During the year, seven new applications were received for the registration of premises for the purpose of the sale of ice cream and all were granted.

Six samples of ice cream were taken during the year for qualitative examination.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT - SECTION 16.

Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream prior to 1958	17
Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream during 1958	—
	17
	—
Number of premises or vehicles registered for the sale of ice cream prior to 1958	111
Number registered during 1958	7
	118

## FOOD HYGIENE.

The Public Health Inspectors continued in their work of education in Food Hygiene, together with the inspection and supervision of premises involved in the handling, preparing and the storage of food.

During the year the Public Health Inspectors continued to give advice to food trade employers and employees.

## SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA..

Grocers	....	....	....	....	....	....	89
General Provisions	....	....	....	....	....	....	98
Greengrocers	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Cake and Confectioners	....	....	....	....	....	}	62
Public Restaurants	....	....	....	....	....		
Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	....	40
Total							321

## TYPE OF SHOP.

Lock-up shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	148
Parlour shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	60
Other shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	113
Total							321

New shops opened during the year	....	....	....	....	....	2
Shops closed during the year	....	....	....	....	....	2
Number of inspections of registered food premises carried out during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	365

As in previous years, I have to report that the general standard both of the lay-out and maintenance of the shops within the area is on the whole satisfactory and all the larger shops are provided with adequate facilities for the maintenance of a good standard of hygiene.

## CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR HEALTH EDUCATION.

An annual contribution is made to the Central Council for Health Education whereby the services of this organisation are made available and utilised.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF COUNCIL EMPLOYEES.

During the year, forty-seven persons have been medically examined involving forty-eight examinations and medical reports. The examinations were for the purposes of the Council's Superannuation Scheme, applications for Breakdown Pensions and the Council's Sick Scheme,

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 to 1951.

(a) **Care of the Aged.**

I have to report that similar to past years, the Department continued to co-operate with Family Doctors, Hospital Medical Officers and the staff of the Divisional Health Office, the Assistance Board and the Aberdare Old People's Welfare Committee, which is a voluntary organisation, in furthering the welfare in general of elderly people in the area.

(b) **Removal to suitable premises. (Section 47).**

No action was taken by the Council under this provision of the Act during the year.

(c) **Burial of the Dead. (Section 50).**

No action was taken under this Section during the year.

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES  
OF THE DISTRICT.

**1. Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council.**(a) **Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, Distribution of Welfare Foods, Issuing of Sick Room Requisites, School Medical and Health Visiting.**

These services are administered by the Divisional Medical Officer, Headquarters—Divisional Health Office, New Clinic Building, Rock Grounds, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 441.

(b) **Mental Health Services.**

The duly authorised officers for this area are :-

Miss H. B. Brown, 400, Grand Avenue, Ely, Cardiff.

Mr. J. C. Seaman, 32 The Crystals, Heath, Cardiff.

Tel. No. Cardiff 52398.

(c) **Ambulance Service.**

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at :-

Hawthorn, Rhydyfelin, Pontypridd, Glam.

Tel. No. Pontypridd 2522.

(d) **Welfare Service.**

Officers of the Welfare Service are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped. The local office for this area is at :-

Area Office, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare, Glam.

Tel. No. Aberdare 318

(e) **Children's Department.**

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at 33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff. Tel. No. 31696-31698.

There is, however, working in this district, a Children's Visitor :-

Miss Payne, c/o Children's Department, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.

Tel. No. Pontypridd 2275.

## (f) Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's Office is at Courthouse Street, Pontypridd, Glam.

Tel. No. Pontypridd 3122.

The Local Registrar is Mr. Dilwyn Jones,  
Registrar's Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare.

Tel. No. Aberdare 208.

## (g) Probation Officers :-

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at  
St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street, Pontypridd, Glam.

Tel. No. Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the Probation Officers are :-

Mr. Emlyn Evans and Miss E. Parker,  
Probation Officers Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare.

Tel. No. Aberdare 201.

## (h) Youth Employment Bureau.

The Youth Employment Officer for the area is Mr. W. V. McCarthy,  
Youth Employment Bureau, Wind Street, Aberdare, Glam.

Tel. No. Aberdare 595.

**2. Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.**

Hospital facilities for this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee.

The office of this Committee is at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. Tel. No. Merthyr 900.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by residents of the area :-

Aberdare General Hospital, Abernant, Aberdare, Glam.

Tel. No. Aberdare 711.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare, Glam.

Tel. No. Aberdare 612.

Mountain Ash General Hospital, Caegarw, Mountain Ash, Glam.

Tel. No. Mountain Ash 2213.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. (For Infectious Diseases)

Tel. No. Merthyr 230.

Pontsarn Chest Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.

Tel. No. Dowlais 78.

St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel. No. Merthyr 900.

Merthyr General Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel. No. Merthyr 864.

Chest Clinic at No. 42 High Street, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 640.

(This clinic is available on Monday and Thursday mornings.)

### **3. Services provided by Government Departments.**

- (a) Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance,  
Central Office (Wales), Government Buildings,  
St. Agnes Road, Gabalfa, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 33051.

Local Office is at 4 Victoria Square, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 541.

- (b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :-  
The office is situated at the East Entrance, Prudential Building,  
Cathays Park, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 26161.

- (c) National Assistance Board :-  
The Area Office for this district is at Glanynys, Cwmbach Road,  
Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 343.

- (d) Ministry of Labour and National Service :-  
Employment Exchange, Monk Street, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 383.

### **4. General Practitioner Services :-**

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council,  
(National Health Council), 47 Park Place, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 26216.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Below are details of habitable dwellinghouses in the area as at the 31st of December, 1958.

Pre-War Private houses in the Area	....	....	....	10,591
Pre-War local authority houses in the area	....	....	....	576
Pre-War local authority miscellaneous houses in the area	....	....	....	28
				<hr/>
Post War private (69) and Police (20) houses in the area	....	....	....	11,195
Post War local authority houses in the area	....	....	....	89
				1,338
				<hr/>
Total				12,622

During the Post-War period to the 31st December, 1958, the number of dwelling-houses closed as unfit for human habitation--146 houses (12 during 1958).

## LOCAL AUTHORITY DWELLING-HOUSES.

The number of houses on the Council pre-war estates are as follows :-

Trefelin, Trecynon	....	....	....	....	140	houses
Trenant, Hirwaun	....	....	....	....	132	"
Tre Ifor, Llwydcoed	....	....	....	....	106	"
Treneol, Cwmaman	....	....	....	....	72	"
Wenallt Road, Abernant	....	....	....	....	40	"
Tre Telynog, Cwmbach	....	....	....	....	26	"
Old Penywaun, Penywaun	....	....	....	....	24	"
Cerdinen Terrace, Cwmbach	....	....	....	....	18	"
Trewaun, Hirwaun	....	....	....	....	18	"
					<hr/>	
					576	
Local Authority Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	28	
					<hr/>	

604 houses.

The number of post-war houses and flats occupied on the Council's Estates as at 31st December, 1958, is as follows :-

Site.	Brick	Steel	Bung- alows	Con- crete	Cornish Unit	Wool- away	Greg- ory Flats	Shop Flats	Totals
Penywaun	.... 180	.... 96	.... 132	.... 352	.... —	.... —	.... 20	.... 6	.... 786
Abernant	.... —	.... —	.... 6	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... 6
Cwmbach	.... 30	.... —	.... —	.... 242	.... 112	.... 42	.... —	.... —	.... 426
Ty Fry	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... —	.... 52	.... 68	.... —	.... 120
Totals	.... 210	.... 96	.... 138	.... 594	.... 112	.... 94	.... 88	.... 6	.... 1,338

Twenty-Two Council Houses were erected during 1958.

The number of Council owned houses at 31/12/58, being :-

Pre 1939 War estates	....	....	....	576	houses.
Pre-War 1939 Miscellaneous	....	....	....	28	"
Post-War Estates	....	....	....	1,338	"
				<hr/>	
				1,942	houses.

## ALLOCATION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

Below you will find a table of 865 applicants (divided into Tenants and Sub-Tenants) for Council houses at the 31st December, 1958

## TENANTS.

Ward.	With 3 or more children	With 2 children	With 1 child over Ten	With 1 child under Ten	With No children	T.B.	Totals
1. ....	13	21	11	9	20	4	78
2. ....	6	9	6	7	18	—	46
3. ....	8	7	10	3	23	1	52
4. ....	12	28	22	8	21	3	94
5. ....	34	16	20	5	20	6	101
Totals	73	81	69	32	102	14	371

## SUB-TENANTS.

1. ....	9	30	8	56	34	2	139
2. ....	3	9	6	20	14	4	56
3. ....	2	8	1	31	15	2	59
4. ....	7	14	6	36	17	1	81
5. ....	19	26	5	40	24	7	121
Totals	40	87	26	183	104	16	456

Tenants            ....    ....    ....    ....    ....    ....    371

Sub-Tenants    ....    ....    ....    ....    ....    ....    456

Total ....    827

Applications from outside A.U.D.C. Area ....    38

Total Applications ....    865



## HOUSING REPAIRS.

I have to report similar to past years that housing repairs during the year have not been without their unsolved problems of getting landlords to undertake repairs. Continued efforts by the Public Health Inspectors to improve the conditions of the older properties have resulted in a substantial number of houses being attended to, although it has been necessary to resort to formal action in some cases.

The high cost of labour and materials continues to make the task of enforcing housing repairs, especially in the case of the lower rented properties a most difficult one to deal with.

## 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING 1958.

(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Housing Act and Public Health Act ....	441
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ....	768
(c)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state of danger or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	17
(d)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ....	197

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES .... 70

## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

## (1) Proceedings under Sections 9, Housing Act, 1957.

(a)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ....	54
(b)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.	
(1)	By Owners ....	36
(2)	By Local Authority in default of Owners. ....	5

## (2) Proceedings under the Public Health Act :-

(a)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	131
(b)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(1)	By Owners. ....	70
(2)	By Local Authority in default of owners ....	3

## 4. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 16 AND 17 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 .... 17

## 5. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 .... Nil



## RENT ACT, 1957.

**Part I. Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.**

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	....	....	....	84
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	....	....	....	Nil
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	....	....	....	82
	(i) in respect of some but not all defects	....	....	....	23
	(ii) in respect of all defects	....	....	....	59
(4)	Number of Undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	....	....	....	13
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule....	....	....	....	Nil
(6)	Number of certificates issued	....	....	....	63

**Part II. Applications for cancellation of Certificates.**

(7)	Application by landlords to local authority for cancellation of certificates of disrepair	....	....	....	10
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates....	....	....	....	7
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	....	....	....	1
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	....	....	....	4

**8. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS. HOUSING ACT, 1949. HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954. RENT ACT, 1957.**

I have to report that during 1958, applications for improvement grants had been received from 61 applicants.

Since January, 1955, when my Council decided to implement these provisions, £14,753 4s. 6d. has been approved to 149 applicants up to the 31st December, 1958.

**9. ACTION ON HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION. HOUSING ACT, 1957.**

During 1958.	Demolition Orders served	....	....	....	13
	Closing Orders served	....	....	....	5
	Undertakings accepted	....	....	....	Nil

Occupants from five of the above properties have been rehoused by the Local Authority.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 266, MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.**

Occupied caravans, etc., continue to make their appearance in different parts of the area and efforts are being made to ensure that they comply with the appropriate legislation. No caravan site has been approved by the Council

J. LI. WILLIAMS,

*Medical Officer of Health,*



## DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Number on register	....	....	....	....	....	12
Number of visits of inspection	....	....	....	....	....	55
Number of defects remedied	....	....	....	....	....	3

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of visits	....	....	....	....	....	439
Number of animals slaughtered	....	....	....	....	....	24,486
Number of animals inspected	....	....	....	....	....	24,486
Meat condemned at slaughterhouse	....	....	....	....	....	19,371 lbs.
Other foods condemned	....	....	....	....	....	6,832 lbs.

## FACTORIES.

	No. on Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions.
(1) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	72	57	3	—
(2) Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by the authority	52	49	—	—
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	3	3	—	—
Totals	127	109	3	—

## Cases in which defects were found :-

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prose- cutions
Want of cleanliness	4	4	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :-				
(a) Insufficient	2	2	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	8	3	—

Number of Outworkers ..... Nil

D. RICHARDS,

*Senior Public Health Inspector.*





